

Abstract of the Disclosure

Pharmaceutically acceptable hydrogel polymers of natural, recombinant or
5 synthetic origin, or hybrids thereof, are introduced in a dry, less hydrated, or substantially
deswollen state and rehydrate in a physiological environment to undergo a volumetric expansion
and to affect sealing, plugging, or augmentation of tissue, defects in tissue, or of organs. The
hydrogel polymers may deliver therapeutic entities by controlled release at the site. Methods to
form useful devices from such polymers, and to implant the devices are provided.

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